GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4227
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2016
Investment in India
Kamal Nath Shri ;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Singapore on his recent visit to India stated that India is not as open for business as investors hope and also alleged that land acquisition, over-regulation and legal hassles are among the biggest bottlenecks;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether such comments made by the Prime Minister of a prominent country are likely to affect even Foreign Direct Investment from worldwide in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

???????? ??? ?????? ???????????? (????????? ??????)(??????? ??????? ???????)
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): The Joint Statement issued by Govt. of India, as available on the website of Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India (https://www.mea.gov.in/) mentions that the two Prime Ministers held wide-ranging discussions on bilateral, regional and multilateral issues in a warm, cordial and friendly atmosphere, reflecting the excellent bilateral ties. They reviewed and expressed satisfaction over the good progress in the bilateral relationship since the signing of the Joint Declaration on a Strategic Partnership on 24 November, 2015 during the Official Visit of Prime Minister Modi to Singapore.

The observation of Prime Minister of Singapore on his recent visit to India as stated in part (a) of the question do not form part of the Joint Statement.

(c) & (d): Singapore is currently the 2nd largest investor in India just after Mauritius in terms of FDI equity inflow. Its FDI in India between April 2000 to September 2016 stands at US$ 50.56 billion which constitutes over 16% of total FDI equity inflows into the country. The actual inflows may be higher, if investments through other countries are accounted for.

Enhancing Ease of Doing Business is an initiative, which Government of India is pursuing vigorously. Measures inter alia include simplification and rationalization of existing rules and introduction of information technology, setting up of an Investor Facilitation Cell and launch of e-biz Portal. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy and procedures have been simplified and liberalized progressively.

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